

ADJOURNMENT FROM MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2000, TO WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2000

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, March 6, 2000, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 8, 2000.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON
WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday Rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

WELCOMING THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS TO INDIANAPOLIS

(Ms. CARSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome the National Federation of State High School Associations to their new home in Indianapolis.

The Federation was started in 1920 by educators dedicated to the development of young people, and it promotes participation in sportsmanship with the goal of developing good citizens through interscholastic activities.

Through participation in these activities, young people gain the skills necessary to succeed in life. Skills like teamwork, respect for themselves and others, dedication to their communities, and pride in a job well done.

I am very privileged to have the National Federation of State High School Associations in their new home in my Congressional District in Indianapolis.

The Federation writes playing rules and coordinates the administration of high school sports and activities in the United States. Their mission is to provide the necessary leadership to enhance the educational experiences of high school students and reduce the risks of their participation.

The Federation was started in 1920 by educators dedicated to the development of young people as productive citizens in our nation through the medium of activities. It provides essential services to the nation's 18,000 high schools.

Each year, more than 6,500,000 young people participate in high school sports, and another 4,000,000 participate in the fine arts programs of speech, debate and music. The Federation publishes playing rules in 16 sports for

boys and girls competition and provides programs and services that its member state associations can and do utilize in all 50 states.

The Federation seeks to provide equitable opportunities, positive recognition and learning experiences to students while maximizing the achievement of educational goals. After school programs also go a long way in the physical and emotional development of our nation's youth.

Through their annual sponsorship of National Student-Athlete Day, the Federation has helped to recognize more than 500,000 students nationwide not only for excellence in athletic achievement but academic achievement excellence and community service as well.

The Department of Health and Human Services has documented that participation in extracurricular activities reduces dropout rates, diminishes the rates of drug abuse and teen pregnancy, and enhances academic performance. Time and time again we hear about the increase in teenage crime between the hours of 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. I strongly support the goals of the Federation in their attempts to provide an alternative for our nation's youth to work at something productive rather than something destructive.

Interscholastic activities are a part of the educational curriculum and experience in our schools and must always remain as such. The responsibility of retaining their place as an integral part of the educational process of young people rests with the Federation. I am proud that the National High School Federation, like the NCAA before it, has chosen Indianapolis as its new home. I look forward to working closely with them to increase the extra-curricular opportunities for our nation's high school students.

Indianapolis is a great city for amateur and professional sports, and we will help the Federation continue its fine work on behalf of our nation's young people.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to move up on the list and insert my name in the place of the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

DEALING WITH DRUG PROBLEMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I read with concern this week that we have

had another incident on our southern border in Tijuana with Mexico and their inability to get control of the drug problem. The attorney general of Mexico was quoted, who has been a crusader in trying to establish law and order in Mexico on the drug issue, that one of our primary needs is to get control of consumption in this country.

I want to suggest two different things: in addition, Mexico needs to continue to work to control the borders, because in San Diego, I will be at a hearing next week that the gentleman from California (Mr. MICA) is chairing in the district of the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY). There is only so much they can do in San Diego, across from Tijuana if we do not get some control of our borders.

There is also only so much we can do in northeast Indiana, as I have talked with Sheriff Dukes in Noble County and Sheriff Jackson in Huntington County and Sheriff Herman in Allen County. There is only so much they can do in my district if the drugs keep coming across in California and Arizona and New Mexico and Texas that pour then into Indiana.

So we need Mexico's continued help, and we need even more aggressive efforts to try to crack down on the drug problem.

But I would suggest there are two other things that we will be addressing in this House before too long: one is the Colombia Plan, or better referred to as the Andes Region Plan. Clearly Colombia is in deep trouble. Clearly the cocaine and heroin that is pouring into our country through Mexico and corrupting Mexico is coming originally out of Colombia for the most part.

We need to do whatever we can to help the brave people on the ground in Colombia who are fighting the narco-traffic thugs, whether they be FARC or whether they be others, in Colombia; and we need to be able to pass that passage through this House and through this Senate and get it signed by the President as soon as possible, because we cannot get control in the demand reduction side if the price keeps going down, if the purity goes up, and the supply is coming in the way it is.

Secondly, as we address the Safe and Drugfree Schools Act and as we look at other acts in Congress, we need to make sure that we do not so water down our prevention programs in this country that they no longer have the antidrug bite in them. If we water these things down so much it becomes kind of a feel-good type of program rather than an accountability program, such as making sure we push drug testing and other methods of accountability. Rather than just talk, countries like Mexico and Colombia have a somewhat legitimate gripe, that we are always pointing the finger at them while we are consuming all this and not doing anything domestically.